A FEDERAL CYBER CENTER

DoD CYBER CRIME CENTER (DC3)

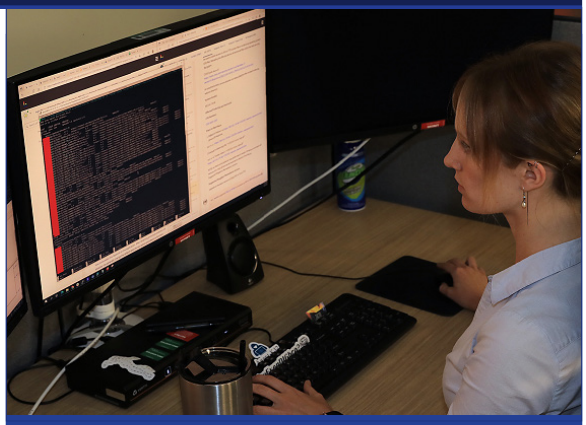
Vulnerability Disclosure Program

VDP FACT SHEET

Established in 2016 by the Secretary of Defense, the Vulnerability Disclosure Program (VDP) operates to strengthen the security of the DoD Information Network (DoDIN) by providing an additional layer to the defense-in-depth cybersecurity strategy.

The DOD VDP mission is to function as the single focal point for receiving vulnerability reports and interacting with crowd-sourced cybersecurity researchers supporting the DoDIN[1]. This improves network defenses and enhances mission assurance, by embracing a previously overlooked yet indispensable resource; private-sector white hat researchers. In January 2021, the DoD VDP scope was officially expanded from public facing websites to all public facing information systems throughout the DoD. This broadens the protection for the DOD attack surface and safe harbor for researchers, while providing more asset and technology security. The success of the program relies solely on expertise and support from the security researcher community which contributes to the overall security of the DoD.

DoDIN information technologies, services, and systems provide critical capabilities to all military service members, their families, veterans, DoD civilians and contractors. Ultimately, VDP will drive an increase in the DoDIN's cyber hygiene with the objective of ensuring DoD can accomplish its mission to defend the United States of America.



VDP Cyber Intel Vulnerability Specialist validating a submission from our security research community.

"VDP provides the DoD community with an independent, world-class team to identify and help mitigate their Cyber-based vulnerabilities by leveraging the capabilities of ethical hackers from around the world"

—VDP

[1] DODI 8531.01 DoD Vulnerability Management Section. 2.11

CAPABILITIES

The DoD Vulnerability Disclosure Program:

- Key component of the National Cyber Strategy, Pillar II, by promoting full-lifecycle cybersecurity through the use of coordinated vulnerability disclosure, crowdsourced testing and risk assessments that improve resiliency ahead of exploitation or attack.

- Enhances the partnership between DoD and the computer security researcher community, building a positive feedback loop to enhance the DoDs security through the speedy discovery and remediation of vulnerabilities.

- Reduces the time between when a vulnerability is discovered, when the system owner is notified and when the vulnerability is successfully mitigated.

- Provides an open channel and legal safe harbor for the discoverer of the vulnerability to report it to DoD.

- Facilitates the National Defense Strategy LOE "Build a More Lethal Force" by increasing the resilience of the DoDs cyberspace assets.

- Aligns with ISO 29147:2018 and ISO 30111.